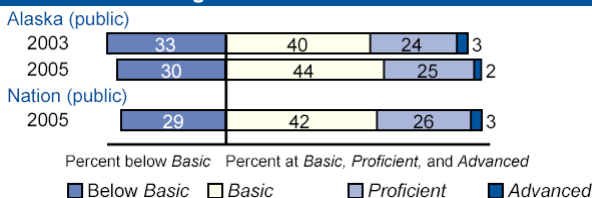


The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) assesses reading in three content areas: reading for literary experience, to gain information, and to perform a task. The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500.

Overall Reading Results for Alaska

- In 2005, the average scale score for eighth-grade students in Alaska was 259. This was not significantly different from¹ their average score in 2003 (256).
- Alaska's average score (259) in 2005 was not significantly different from that of the Nation's public schools (260).
- Of the 52 states and other jurisdictions² that participated in the 2005 eighth-grade assessment, students' average scale scores in Alaska were higher than those in 10 jurisdictions, not significantly different from those in 12 jurisdictions, and lower than those in 29 jurisdictions.
- The percentage of students in Alaska who performed at or above the NAEP *Proficient* level was 26 percent in 2005. This percentage was not significantly different from that in 2003 (27 percent).
- The percentage of students in Alaska who performed at or above the NAEP *Basic* level was 70 percent in 2005. This percentage was not significantly different from that in 2003 (67 percent).

Student Percentage at NAEP Achievement Levels



NOTE: The NAEP reading achievement levels correspond to the following scale points: Below Basic, 242 or lower; Basic, 243–280; Proficient, 281–322; Advanced, 323 or above.

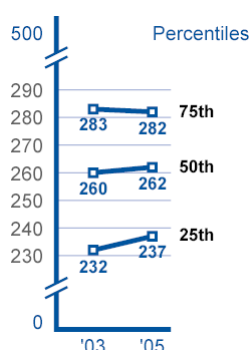
Performance of NAEP Reporting Groups in Alaska

Reporting groups	Percent of students	Average score	Percent below Basic	Percent of students at or above Basic	Percent of students at or above Proficient	Percent Advanced
Male	50	253	36	64	21	1
Female	50	265	24	76	32	3
White	57	268	20	80	35	3
Black	5	249	41	59	18	1
Hispanic	4	254	32	68	20	1
Asian/Pacific Islander	7	260	29	71	24	1
American Indian/Alaska Native	25	240	51	49	10	#
Eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch	31 ↑	241	50	50	12	#
Not eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch	66	267 ↑	21 ↓	79 ↑	33	3

Average Score Gaps Between Selected Groups

- In 2005, male students in Alaska had an average score that was lower than that of female students by 12 points. In 2003, the average score for male students was lower than that of female students by 13 points.
- In 2005, Black students had an average score that was lower than that of White students by 19 points. In 2003, the average score for Black students was lower than that of White students by 19 points.
- In 2005, Hispanic students had an average score that was lower than that of White students by 14 points. In 2003, the average score for Hispanic students was lower than that of White students by 21 points.
- In 2005, students who were eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch, an indicator of poverty, had an average score that was lower than that of students who were not eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch by 26 points. In 2003, the average score for students who were eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch was lower than the score of those not eligible by 24 points.
- In 2005, the score gap between students at the 75th percentile and students at the 25th percentile was 45 points. In 2003, the score gap between students at the 75th percentile and students at the 25th percentile was 50 points.

Reading Scale Scores at Selected Percentiles



Scores at selected percentiles on the NAEP reading scale indicate how well students at lower, middle, and higher levels of the distribution performed.

The estimate rounds to zero.

‡ Reporting standards not met.

* Significantly different from 2003.

↑ Significantly higher than 2003. ↓ Significantly lower than 2003.

¹ Comparisons (higher/lower/not different) are based on statistical tests. The .05 level was used for testing statistical significance. Performance comparisons may be affected by differences in exclusion rates across years for students with disabilities (4% nationally in 2005) and English language learners (1% nationally in 2005) in the NAEP samples. Statistical comparisons are calculated on the basis of unrounded scale scores or percentages.

² "Other Jurisdictions" refers to the District of Columbia and the Department of Defense Education Activity schools.

NOTE: Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding and because the "Information not available" category for free/reduced-price lunch and the "Unclassified" category for race/ethnicity are not displayed. Visit <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/states/> for additional results and detailed information.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), selected years, 2003–2005 Reading Assessments.